

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner 1) objected to the drawings; 2) rejected claims 38-39 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement; and 3) allowed claims 40-58.

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings for “not clearly show[ing] the insulation surrounding the pipe bundles.” The Examiner also noted that reference numeral 231 was omitted from the drawings. Figures 6-7 and 13-16 have been amended to correct the errors noted by the Examiner. Further, Figure 3 has been amended to include details that were described in the specification but omitted from the figure. Paragraphs [0065], [0085], and [0105] have also been amended to correct erroneous Figure and reference numerals. These amendments do not add new material to the disclosure, and should therefore be entered.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 38 and 39 for claiming “a system for loading and unloading gas from said pipe.” Claims 38 has been amended to claim a system for loading pipes and a system for unloading pipes in accordance with the specification. Claim 39 is dependent on claim 38. Therefore, claims 38 and 39 are now in compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Appl. No. 09/945,049
Amdt. Dated May 6, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 10, 2004

Conclusion

Allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview would be beneficial, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX



2/?

Fig. 3 Compressibility Factors for 0.6 and 0.7
Specific Gravity Natural Gas ~~at 20°F~~

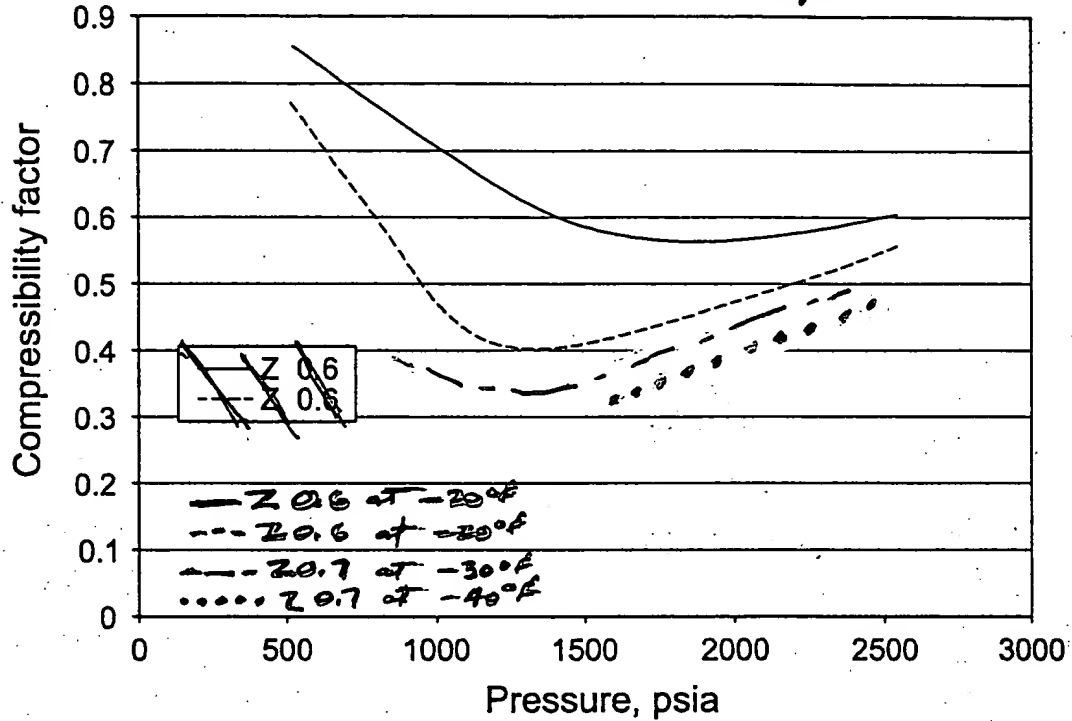
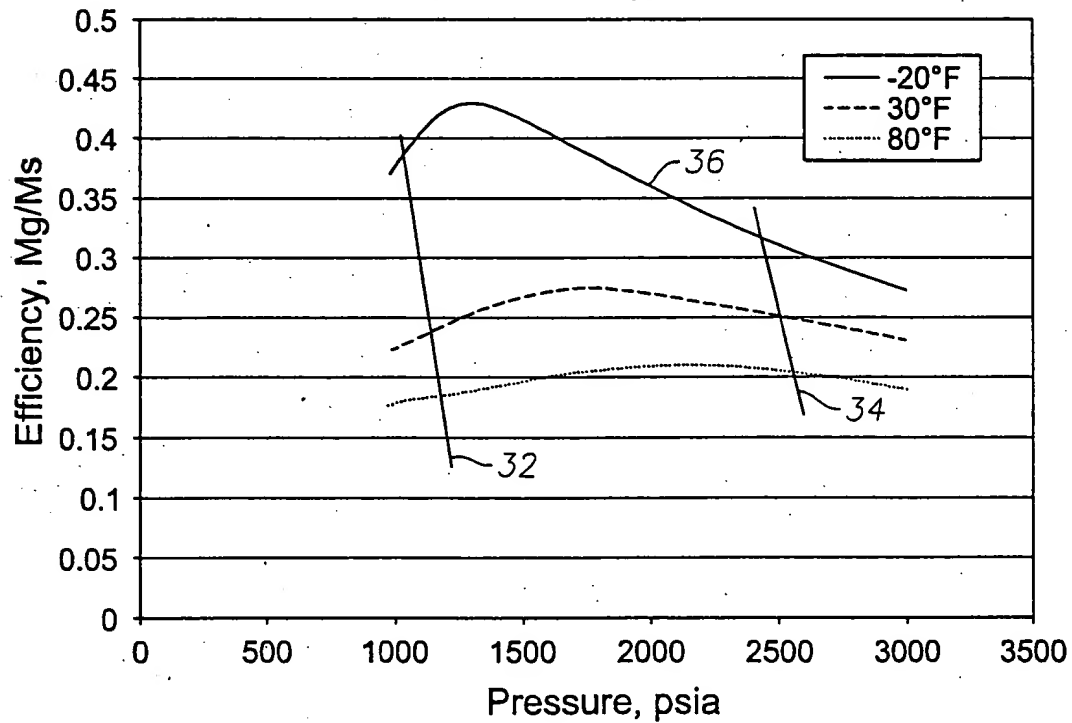


Fig. 3A ~~3A~~ Storage Efficiency vs Pressure
for Various Temperatures



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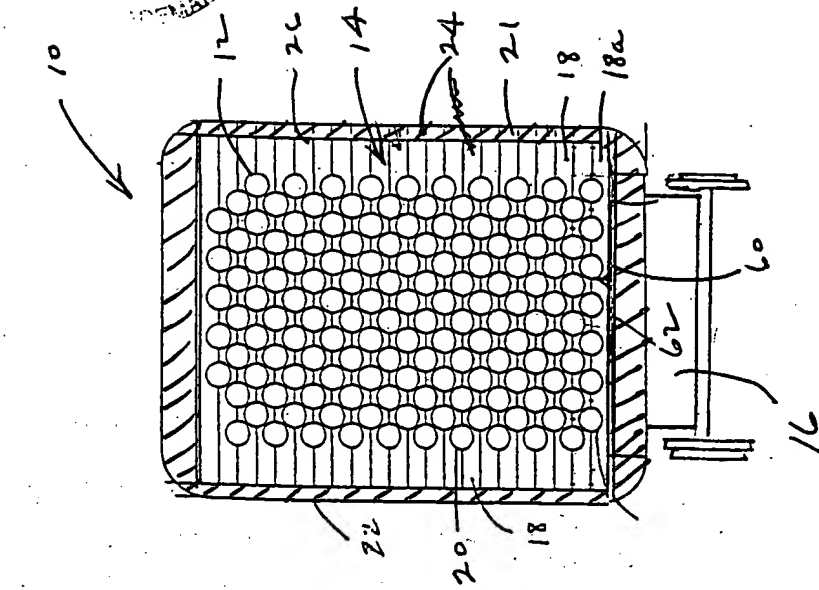


FIG. 6

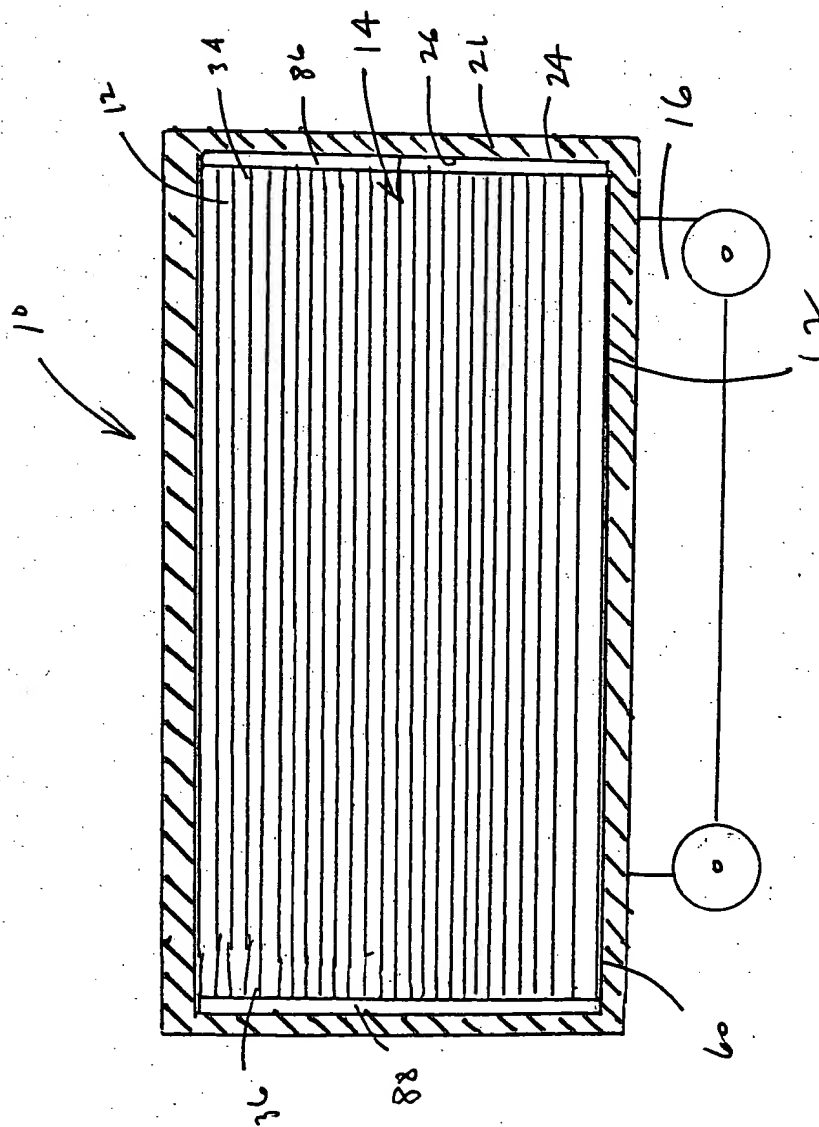


FIG. 7



6/?

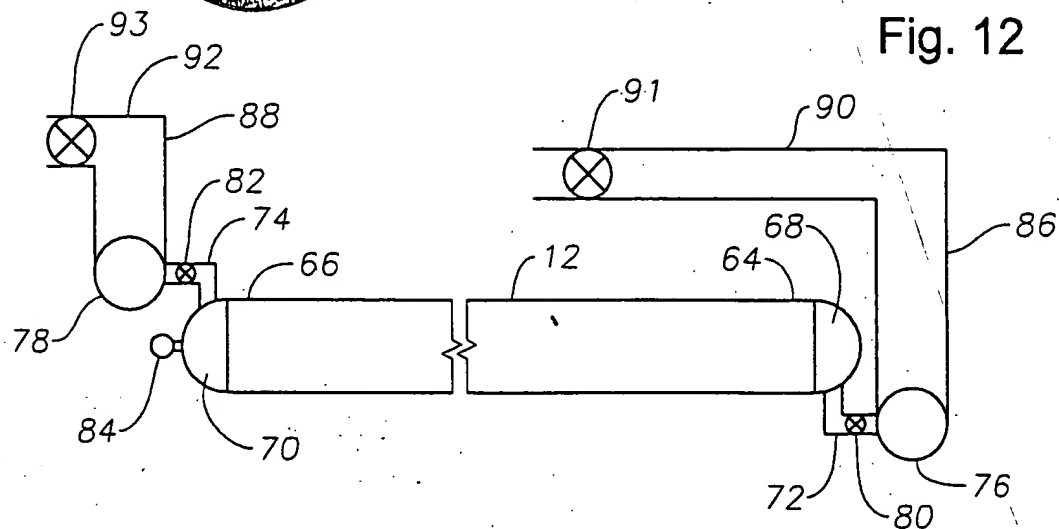


Fig. 12

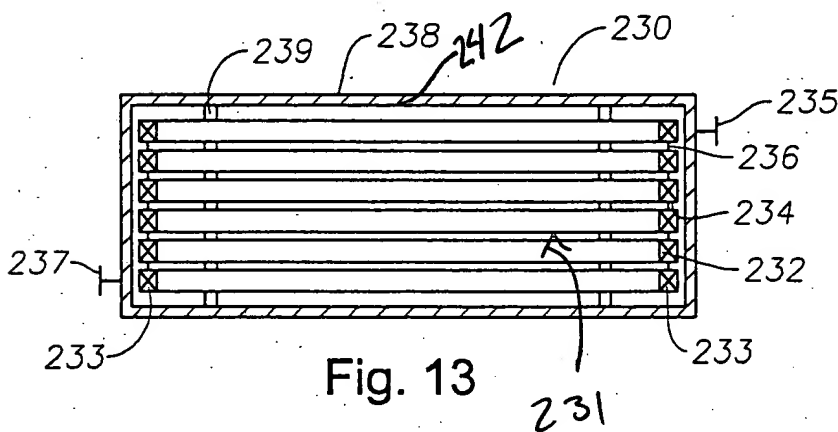


Fig. 13

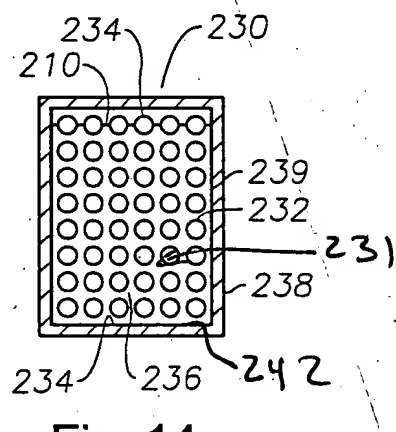


Fig. 14

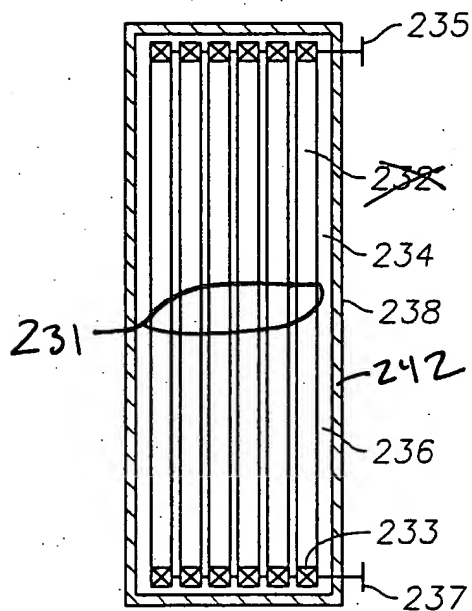


Fig. 15

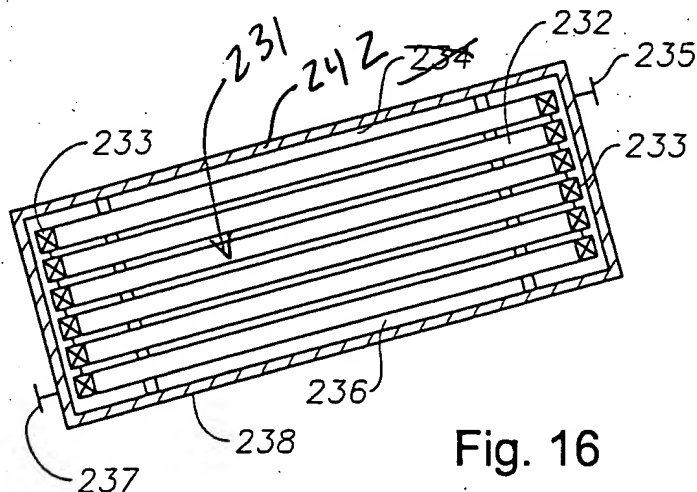


Fig. 16